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NWT Labour Force Activity

March 2016

Overview

In March 2016, Statistics Canada estimated that 22,400 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories (NWT). This represents an employment rate of 69.3% which was the highest in Canada followed by Yukon (67.0%) and Alberta (66.6%). Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 60.1%.

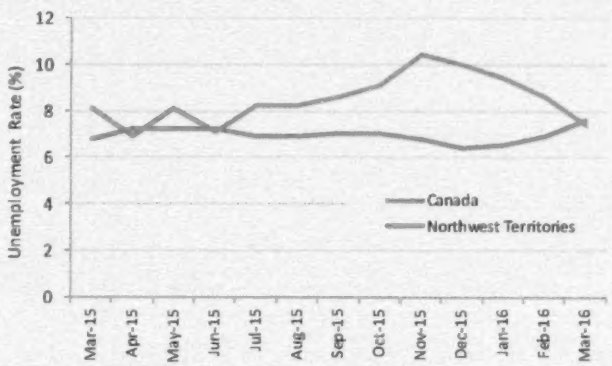
Since March 2015, employment in the NWT increased by 3.2% or 700 persons.

Table 1: Labour Force Statistics - Northwest Territories

	Mar-2016	Feb-2016	Mar-2015	Changes from Mar 2015 - Mar 2016	
				Number	%
Population 15+	**32,300**	**32,200**	**32,200**	**100**	**0.3**
Labour force	24,200	24,400	23,600	600	2.5
Employment	22,400	22,300	21,700	700	3.2
Full-time	19,500	19,300	19,400	100	0.5
Part-time	2,900	3,000	2,400	500	20.8
Unemployment	1,800	2,100	1,900	(100)	-5.3
Participation rate (%)	74.9	75.8	73.3		
Unemployment rate (%)	7.4	8.6	8.1		
Employment rate (%)	69.3	69.3	67.4		

At 7.4%, the NWT unemployment rate was lower than the national rate (7.6%) and it has been on the decline for four consecutive months. There were 100 less unemployed persons in March 2016 compared to the same time last year.

Figure 1: Unemployment rates during past 12 months, Northwest Territories & Canada



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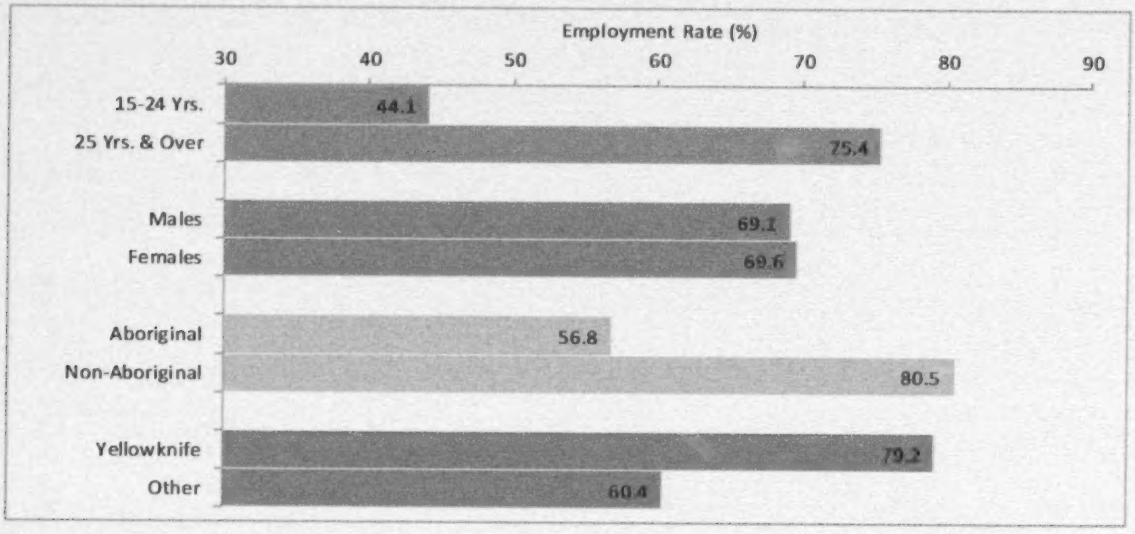
EMPLOYMENT RATES BY KEY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Between February and March 2016, employment rates increased for males by 1.4 percentage points, and decreased for females by 1.2 percentage points. For youths aged 15 to 24, the employment rate decreased by 1.7 percentage points and was slightly higher for those aged 25 and over compared to the previous month. There was little change in the employment rates among ethnic and geographic groups.

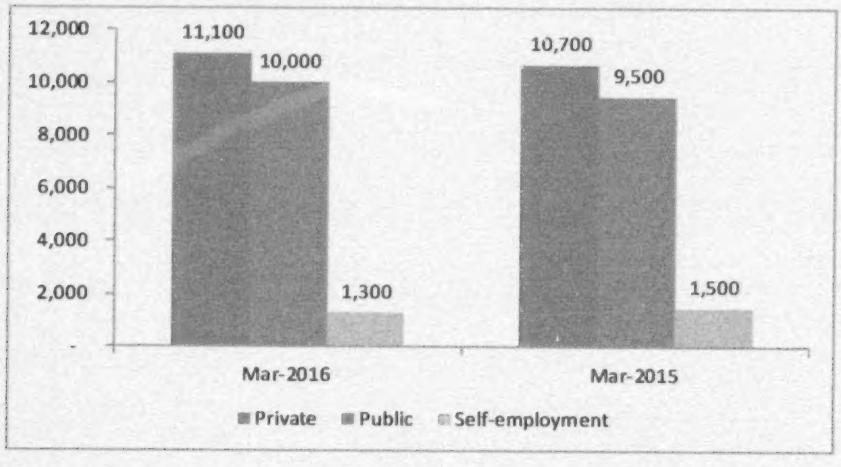
Figure 2: Employment rates by key characteristics, March 2016



EMPLOYMENT BY TYPE OF WORKER, CLASS OF WORKER & INDUSTRY

Compared to March 2015, employment in the public sector and the private sector increased by 500 and 400 persons respectively. Self-employment decreased by 200 persons.

Figure 3: Employment by Class of Worker



HISTORICAL LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

Table 2: Labour Force Activity - Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Mar-16	32,300	24,200	22,400	1,800	8,000	74.9	7.4	69.3
Feb-16	32,200	24,400	22,300	2,100	7,800	75.8	8.6	69.3
Jan-16	32,100	24,400	22,100	2,300	7,600	76.0	9.4	68.8
Dec-15	32,000	24,100	21,700	2,400	7,900	75.3	10.0	67.8
Nov-15	31,900	24,000	21,500	2,500	8,000	75.2	10.4	67.4
Oct-15	31,900	24,100	21,900	2,200	7,700	75.5	9.1	68.7
Sep-15	31,800	24,300	22,200	2,100	7,500	76.4	8.6	69.8
Aug-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jul-15	31,800	24,500	22,500	2,000	7,300	77.0	8.2	70.8
Jun-15	31,900	23,800	22,200	1,700	8,000	74.6	7.1	69.6
May-15	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Apr-15	32,100	23,200	21,600	1,600	8,800	72.3	6.9	67.3
Previous Years:								
Mar-15	32,200	23,600	21,700	1,900	8,500	73.3	8.1	67.4
Mar-14	32,500	24,000	22,100	1,800	8,500	73.8	7.5	68.0
Mar-13	32,600	24,300	22,400	1,900	8,300	74.5	7.8	68.7
Mar-12	32,300	24,500	22,400	2,100	7,800	75.9	8.6	69.3
Mar-11	32,100	23,900	22,400	1,500	8,200	74.5	6.3	69.8
Mar-10	31,900	22,100	20,300	1,800	9,800	69.3	8.1	63.6
Mar-09	31,700	22,700	21,700	1,100	9,000	71.6	4.8	68.5
Mar-08	31,800	23,800	22,300	1,500	7,900	74.8	6.3	70.1
Mar-07	31,400	24,700	23,700	1,000	6,700	78.7	4.0	75.5
Mar-06	31,100	24,200	23,100	1,100	7,000	77.8	4.5	74.3

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national Labour Force Survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca/ or call 1-888-782-8768 (1-888-STATSNT).

Next Release: May 6, 2016